

FY2011 Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry Competitive Allocation Request for Proposals

- Introduction to Indiana's proposals
 - 7 projects
 - \$2.1 million in federal funds requested
- Proposals are being finalized
- Seeking letters of support
- Submitting to US Forest Service - Monday, January 31, 2011
- Will hear back on how proposals ranked nationally and if projects are funded – March 1, 2011

Funding Sources

- This RFP replaces these previously separate RFP processes:
“Redesign Grants”, Hazard Mitigation, national Forest Health special projects and other Forest Health discretionary efforts.

USFS STATE & PRIVATE FORESTRY				INDIANA		
	Redesign	RFP + Comp process	Total	Redesign	RFP + Comp process	Total 2010
Forest Health Federal lands	\$0	\$1,476,951	\$1,476,951	\$0	\$53,234	\$53,234
Forest Health Cooperative lands	986,407	2,045,606	3,032,013	66,000	12,570	78,570
Forest Stewardship	3,486,383	895,781	4,382,164	198,000	-	198,000
Urban and Community Forestry	777,845	717,788	1,495,633	197,000	-	197,000
Economic Action Programs	-	1,424,112	1,424,112		70,000	70,000
Nat'l Fire Plan State Fire Assistance	<u>65,000</u>	<u>2,999,664</u>	<u>3,064,664</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total - All Funds Sources	\$5,315,635	\$10,487,902	\$15,803,537	\$461,000	\$135,804	\$596,804

Indiana Strategic Forestland Conservation Program

- Proposal Leads: Phil Wagner & Chris Gonso
- Total project: \$1,130,000
- Federal funding: \$565,000
- This project will focus on the largest remaining forest patch in Indiana, Brown County Hills/Shawnee Hills, identified Strategic Target Forest. In this area it will increase parcels under management, stewardship planning, sustainable certification, landowner training and enrollment in the Classified Forest & Wildlands program. It will contain a high intensity outreach component and further target private forestlands for enrollment in conservation programs where they adjoin State Forests or other large blocks of intact forest cover. This will be a pilot project to develop and implement large scale forest conservation and stewardship efforts at a landscape scale.

Expanding, Updating and Delivering Forestry Best Management Practices in Indiana

- Proposal Leads: Duane McCoy & Chris Gonso
- Total project: \$785,833
- Federal funding: \$392,917
- This project will update and build upon the cooperative effort that resulted in the 1996 Indiana Logging and Forestry Best Management Practices for protecting soil and water resources during forestry activities. Forestry Best Management Practices (“BMPs”) will be created for silviculture, urban areas, historic/cultural sites, threatened and endangered species, water quality and invasive species. This project will fund the cooperative effort to establish these new BMPs and develop technology and distribution channels to ensure rapid dissemination and application throughout the state and in priority forest areas.

Indiana Map (Terrestrial) Invasives Initiative

- Proposal Leads: Phil Marshall & Zach Smith
- Total project: \$1,200,000
- Federal funding: \$600,000
- This project will survey lands visited by field foresters, technical advisors, and land managers for the presence or absence of invasive species and where found, document the extent of the infestation. This information will be consolidated in a web based GIS database and increase public awareness around known infestations, spread risks, etc. and will aid in ensuring that dollars spent to combat or slow the spread are the most efficiently spent. Survey will include invasive plants, exotic insects and exotic pathogens. The project will include development of appropriate methodology and system training. The project will derive minimum baseline for invasive extent across 92 counties and 600 thousand acres of forestland.

Landowner Deer Impact Assessment Tool

- Proposal Leads: Allen Pursell & Scott Haulton
- Total project: \$265,000
- Federal funding: \$132,500
- This project is a collaborative effort to produce tools that will allow forest managers and landowners to determine if the property level deer population is too high to manage for oak regeneration or reforestation on a given tract of land and promote forest health and diversity. A working group of experts will develop simple indicators for landowners and foresters, make clear recommendations, and market those ideas widely. Landowners will be trained in how to conduct deer evaluations. Information gathered from private landowners will in return contribute to the development of a deer indicator map that will reveal levels of deer damage to forest regeneration on private lands statewide.

Ecologic Restoration and Accelerated Reintroduction of Species

- Project Leads: Charles Michler & Phil O'Connor
- Total project: \$500,000
- Federal funding: \$250,000
- Virtually absent from its historic ranges in Indiana for nearly 100 years, the American chestnut has been back-crossed with blight resistant chestnut species to produce a tree that could begin to restore the “Redwood of the East” to a place of importance in Indiana stands. This project will accelerate the reintroduction of this valuable and fast growing mast and timber species into ecologically appropriate areas. American chestnut can help fill loss in native forest diversity on upland sites projected to be heavy hit as EAB takes out white ash, gypsy moth attacks southern Indiana’s hardwood belt, and Tree of Heaven continues to aggressively move into native forests. The project will also provide for accelerated reintroduction of Butternut, develop restorative practice and build ecologic restoration capacity in Indiana.

Retaining Working Forests Through Generational Transfer

- Project Leads: Liz Jackson & Chris Gonso
- Total project \$165,000
- Federal funding \$82,500
- This project provides a multi-faceted and multi-resource attack on the available knowledge of private landowners regarding succession planning with the goal of encouraging retention of land within the family and reducing the parcelization of those properties. Parts of the project: 1.) Provide Train the Trainer Workshops for Ties to the Land (TTL) program. 2.) Provide Train the Professional (CPA/Attorneys) Workshops. 3.) Provide Ties to the Land Workshops to Indiana landowners. 4.) Provide other succession topic-related workshops to address needs on topics like conservation easements and family partnerships. 5.) Provide information resources through succession planning website to include resource lists, educational materials, FAQs, and videos. 6.) Provide webinars on specific succession planning topics.

Statewide Strategies at a Parcel Level

- Proposal Leads: Chris Gonso & Brett Martin
- Total project \$195,000
- Federal funding \$97,500
- This project will enable enhanced conservation and stewardship of forest resources by providing natural resource professionals the ability to connect directly with priority landowners and facilitate appropriate land use, management and protections within target areas. Indiana county level parcel data has recently become available in GIS format through efforts at the Indiana Geographic Information Council and these records include tax-bill mailing addresses for landowners. These data will be combined with existing GIS forestry data to provide a database of forest landowners that will be used in a variety of manners to facilitate landscape scale forest conservation and stewardship according to statewide priorities.

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- Please be aware that proposal leads will be seeking letters of support
- Thank you in advance for your quick responses
- Any questions?